

## **THE DIGNITY OF RISK**

**What if you never got to make a mistake?**

**What if your money was always kept in an envelope where you couldn't get it?**

**What if you were never given a chance to do well at something?**

**What if your only chance to be with people different from you was with your own family?**

**What if the job you did was not useful?**

**What if you never got to make a decision?**

**What if the only risky thing you could do was act out?**

**What if you couldn't go outside because the last time you went it rained?**

**What if you took the wrong bus once and now you can't take another one?**

**What if you got into trouble and were sent away and you couldn't come back because they always remember you're trouble?**

**What if you worked and got paid \$.46 an hour?**

**What if you had to wear your winter coat when it rained because it was all you had?**

**What if you had no privacy?**

**What if you could do part of the grocery shopping but weren't allowed because you couldn't do all of the shopping?**

**What if you spent three hours every day just waiting?**

**What if you grew old and never knew adulthood?**

**What if you never got a chance?**

From Linda Stengle's book, "Laying Community Foundations for Your Child with a Disability."

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